

PRESS RELEASE

House Armed Services Committee Duncan Hunter, Chairman

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CONGRESSMAN DUNCAN HUNTER ELECTED TO CHAIR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Republican Conference yesterday elected Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA) to serve as chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services during the 108th Congress. Said Hunter, "I am honored by this appointment, and look forward to serving the nation as Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee."

Hunter, a Vietnam Veteran who was first elected to Congress in 1980, continued, "Congress' primary responsibility is the protection of the American people. Our fight against terrorism serves as a reminder that we continue to have enemies and it is imperative that we work with the President to ensure that our men and women in the military have every resource they need to defend our freedom."

Continued Hunter, "I am committed to a strong United States military, and during my tenure as chairman, the committee will focus on four principal areas."

Hunter explained, "First, we will provide the President the resources he needs to win the nation's wars. Second, we will renew our commitment to modernization of the military, particularly through initiatives to quickly move new and effective technologies into the field. Third, we will make the Department of Defense a more efficient operation by continuing to shift resources from redundant and unnecessary bureaucracy to warfighting capabilities. Finally, we will continue to strongly support our nation's military personnel and their families by ensuring that they are properly compensated and well-equipped with safe and effective weapons and equipment."

Hunter was first appointed to the House Armed Services Committee in 1981. During the 107th Congress, he served as vice-chair of the full committee and chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Research and Development. During the 104th, 105th, and 106th Congresses, Hunter served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Procurement.

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